



# NOTICE TO STATE WATER PROJECT CONTRACTORS

NUMBER: 97-01

DATE: February 4, 1997

SUBJECT: Semitropic Pump Back  
Demonstration Program for 1997FROM:   
Director, Department of Water Resources

This is to notify all contractors that the Department of Water Resources has approved an operational test of Semitropic Water Storage District's pump back facilities located at Mile Post 209.80 of the California Aqueduct. The pump back demonstration is scheduled for February 3 through February 5, 1997. During this period, Semitropic will pump about 700 acre-feet of local water into the Aqueduct over the three-day period.

In 1993, Semitropic, a member unit of the Kern County Water Agency, constructed a 300 cubic-foot-per-second turnout and turn-in/pump back facility, also known as "Semitropic No. 2 Turnout." This facility is part of Semitropic's Groundwater Banking Project, which is a long-term water storage project designed to recharge groundwater and reduce overdraft, increase Semitropic's operational reliability and flexibility, and optimize the distribution and use of available water resources between Semitropic and the water agencies electing to participate in the storage program. The program has a total storage capability of one million acre-feet with an annual capacity to store 91,000 to 315,000 acre-feet and an annual capacity to return 90,000 to 224,000 acre-feet.

Semitropic and several State Water Project contractors that have stored SWP entitlement water in Semitropic's banking program wish to demonstrate the reverse flow capability of the project. This test will serve as an opportunity to coordinate scheduling and verify water quality data. The following is a preliminary pumping schedule:

February 3	Start 8:00 a.m. at about 35 cfs	Run for 24 hours
February 4	Increase to about 100 to 125 cfs	Run for 24 hours
February 5	Increase to 150 to 180 cfs	Run for 24 hours
February 6	Resume normal operations	

Extensive water quality monitoring will be conducted during the test period. Given the small volume of inflow, the test is not expected to have any impact on the quality of water delivered to downstream users. Before long-term implementation of the pump back program is permitted, all water quality impacts will be fully analyzed using the data collected from the test and subsequent well test data that may be required.

If you have any questions about this demonstration program, please contact Donald Long at (916) 653-4313 or Dan Flory at (916) 653-5942, FAX (916) 653-9628.